

CLAIMS

1. A method for identifying an audio signal from a plurality of audio signals, the method comprising:
 - 5 ▪ receiving (104) a user preference;
 - concurrently receiving (108) the plurality of audio signals;
 - analysing (110) the audio signals to extract features; and
 - identifying (114) a first audio signal based on a comparison of the user preference and extracted features.
- 10 2. A method as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising outputting (116) said first audio signal.
- 15 3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said analysing the audio signals is performed continuously and further identifying a second audio signal based on a comparison of the user preference and extracted features.
- 20 4. A method as claimed in claims 2 and 3, wherein, according to a pre-defined rule, said outputting switches from said first to said second audio signal.
- 25 5. A method as claimed in claim 4 and further comprising storing (220) said second audio signal and when said outputting switches from said first to said second audio signal recalling said second audio signal from the store.
- 30 6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said storing of said second audio signal begins upon identifying said second signal.
7. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5 and further comprising storing (212) the plurality of audio signals.

8. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said receiving a user preference comprises receiving said preference from a user interface.
9. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, wherein said receiving a user preference comprises receiving said preference from a store.
10. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the extracted features comprise inherent features.
11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the inherent features are musical features.
12. A method as claimed in any preceding claim and further comprising translating (208) said user preference to features.
13. A system for identifying an audio signal from a plurality of audio signals comprising:
- a receiving device (310) operable to receive a user preference;
 - audio input means (302) operable to concurrently receive the plurality of audio signals;
 - processing means (308) operable to analyse the audio signals to extract features and to identify a first audio signal based on a comparison of the user preference and extracted features.
14. A system as claimed in claim 13 and further comprising an output device (416) for outputting said first audio signal, said processing means operable to control said output device.
15. A system as claimed in claim 13 or 14, wherein the processing means is operable to continuously analyse the audio signals and to further identify a second audio signal based on a comparison of the user preference and extracted features.

16. A system as claimed in claims 14 and 15, wherein, according to a pre-defined rule, the processing means is operable to control said output device to switch from said first to said second audio signal.
- 5 17. A system as claimed in any of claims 13 to 16 and further comprising storage means (508).
18. A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein said storage means is
10 operable to simultaneously write and read.
19. A system as claimed in any of claims 13 to 18 wherein said receiving device is a user interface (662).
- 15 20. A system as claimed in any of claims 13 to 18 wherein said receiving device is a wireless interface (704).
21. A record carrier comprising software operable to carry out the method of any of the Claims 1 to 12.
- 20 22. A software utility configured for carrying out the method steps as claimed in any of the Claims 1 to 12.
23. A system including processing means, said processing means being
25 directed in its operations by a software utility as claimed in Claim 22.